

Driven From Sea to Sea, Or, JUST A CAMPIN'.

BY C. C. POST. PUBLISHED BY PERMISSION OF J. E. DOWNEY & CO., PUBLISHERS, CHICAGO.

CHAPTER IV. EVICTIONS.

The explorers were gone ten days. Returning just after nightfall on the evening of the tenth day they paused in front of the little grove surrounding Ritchie's shanty to arrange between themselves the route which they should take on the morrow in notifying those interested of their return and readiness to report.

The Suscol Ranch is not a prairie, but a succession of low ridges or hills. Occasionally a bit of the rock foundation crops out on some bluffy point, but generally the ridges are tillable clear to their summits and produce wonderful crops of wheat, an average of fifty and sixty bushels to the acre being considered no surprising yield even upon fields of several hundred acres. For their natural state they are dotted over with little groups of white and live oak, usually in groups of from a dozen to a hundred trees, and it was in one of these little groves that Ritchie's shanty was situated.

When the two men had agreed upon their separate course for the morrow, and also upon the place at which the squatters were to be asked to meet and decide upon their future action, they separated. Ritchie turned his pony's head toward his shanty while Parsons loosened the rein upon the neck of his beast already showing signs of uneasiness at being held back when so near home, and started at a brisk pace in the direction in which he knew his family were anxiously awaiting him.

He had gone but a few yards, however, when he heard an exclamation of surprise from Ritchie, who almost instantly rejoined him and crowding his pony close up to that of his companion exclaimed, in a voice shaken with emotion and excitement: "My God, Parsons, they've torn down my shanty, and Heaven only knows what has become of my wife and child."

It was true. Those to whom the Suscol Ranch, comprising thousands of acres of the finest lands, had been given by the purchased votes of corrupt Congressmen and Senators, had decided to resort to eviction in order to obtain immediate possession, and sent a posse of men with orders to destroy a number of dwellings as a warning to all others, and Bill Ritchie's shanty had been among those selected.

For a moment the two men sat upon their horses like statues, looking at each other through the darkness; and then, with one impulse, they put spurs to their animals and dashed away in the direction of Parsons' house. Neither spoke, but both leaned forward in their saddles, and rode at full speed, with bated breath, while alternate hope and fear struggled with fierce anger for possession of their bosoms.

Had they stopped to reason they would have known that there was little probability of injury having been done to the evicted family; but who would stop to reason of the probable amount of injury when he came suddenly upon the ruins of his home and realized that those whom he loved best, and who were all that he had left, were a woman with a babe at her breast, and had the shelter torn from over their heads, and that they were gone, he knew not where or how?

Naturally they would seek shelter with their new neighbors, the Parsons, since they were nearer than any other, and the two men would return together; but suppose the Parsons cottage was destroyed also? Supposing all the cottages in the neighborhood were destroyed, what then?

And John Parsons? Can the sufferings which he endured during that ride be measured or told? That ride of a quarter of a mile before coming up over the intervening rise they saw lights in the windows, and a faint burning brightly in front of the cottage?

If life were a flame feeding upon the body which it inhabits, then it would be easy to understand how men sometimes grow old in a day—how the hair may turn white in a night, or one man may live more, suffer more in an hour, than comes to others in a lifetime.

The posse sent to evict the homesteaders had gone directly to John Parsons' cottage from Ritchie's; but they were preceded by the Parsons, who, frightened by the threat of men to tear the shanty down over her head if she did not at once leave, had caught her babe from its cradle and ran directly to the Parsons homestead, where she arrived almost as exhausted as they.

Mrs. Parsons was scarcely less agitated at the terrible news than was she who brought it; and Erastus who had listened without saying a word to the story of the outrage, made no objection to the proposition, but helped to make a bundle of the scanty furniture of the family, and in company with the frightened women and children crossed the creek upon a little foot-bridge made of planks, and placed them all within the shelter of the bluffs on the opposite side, and a little further down, where they would be out of sight of the posse either from the cottage or from any point on the road over which they would pass in continuing their work of destruction.

This done, in spite of the pleadings of almost all hands of Mrs. Ritchie, as she had always called Mrs. Parsons, he returned to the cottage and carefully examined the rifle which he had been allowed to purchase when the journey across the plains began, and also, and then he closed and barricaded as best he could the doors of the cottage and waited.

He had not long to wait, for very soon the posse, composed of a dozen men, halted in front of the dwelling, and the leader advanced and rapped loudly on the door.

It is probable that the posse had lingered a little, knowing the direction in which Mrs. Ritchie had fled with her child, and guessing that the family to whom she would impart the information of the destruction of her own dwelling would be frightened thereby into leaving also, and thus enable them to avoid the scene which, in justice, it must be said was no pleasure to them; and evidently they thought that the ruse had succeeded, for the leader of the squad remarked as he halted the men: "Guess we shan't have to frighten anybody to death here to get them to leave."

He was right. The occupant of the cottage was not frightened, but in another minute the officer was, for he heard the click of a rifle lock and knew that there was not only somebody within, but that that somebody meant business; and, hastily stepping back off the porch, he said to the men: "Nobody at home here; guess we've done enough for one day, anyhow, let's quit and go home." And in another moment the whole posse was out upon the road and headed in the direction from which they came.

It is more than possible, it is probable, that the officer did not intend to destroy the house from which this little family had fled, and which Erastus Hemmingway had determined to defend at the risk of his life. It was one of the best cottages in the whole country, and was so valuable that it was destroyed if the family could be frightened into leaving without; hence those nearest it had been destroyed first, with the expectation that it would result in its abandonment, if not immediately, at least in a very short time; and the purpose of the posse in stopping at all had been to add to the fright of its occupants by threats and by their presence; instead of which their leader had received a fright himself, which induced him to move a little more rapidly than was his wont, and to keep his person well sheltered behind the wagon in which was deposited the axes and iron bars, by means of which they had carried on their work of destruction at other places.

When Erastus was satisfied that the men were really gone, he unbarricaded the door and returned to the anxious group behind the bluff.

At first they could not be persuaded to go back to the house, the little girls crying and begging their mother to "hitch right up and go back to the States," where at least their lives were safe; but finally venturing far enough to take a look they saw an approaching man, whom Mrs. Ritchie recognized as a neighbor, and were reassured.

The neighbor proved to be another of the evicted squatters looking for shelter for his homeless family, and when John Parsons and Bill Ritchie reined up their heated ponies in front of the cottage that night, it was the only one standing within a circle of two miles on every side, and a dozen families with their household goods were domiciled within, camping beneath its hospitable shadow.

When Erastus was satisfied that the men were really gone, he unbarricaded the door and returned to the anxious group behind the bluff.

At first they could not be persuaded to go back to the house, the little girls crying and begging their mother to "hitch right up and go back to the States," where at least their lives were safe; but finally venturing far enough to take a look they saw an approaching man, whom Mrs. Ritchie recognized as a neighbor, and were reassured.

The neighbor proved to be another of the evicted squatters looking for shelter for his homeless family, and when John Parsons and Bill Ritchie reined up their heated ponies in front of the cottage that night, it was the only one standing within a circle of two miles on every side, and a dozen families with their household goods were domiciled within, camping beneath its hospitable shadow.

CHAPTER V. ON THE MOVE AGAIN. The report made by Parsons and Ritchie of the advantages and resources of the country which they had visited was quite as favorable as any one had expected.

There was no land for pre-emption suitable for their purposes without going back from Sacramento some distance, and they must expect a hard life for a number of years; but it was a beautiful country, and the day would be quickly settled. Already a few families had started fruit ranches, and had obtained the most gratifying results.

Melons, and indeed all kinds of vines and vegetables, were wonderfully prolific, and the soil, with its carrots, beets and other root crops, could be raised in abundance, and by the simplest methods of cultivation.

For the present it was probable that the mines in the vicinity would continue to yield large prizes, and the squatters might produce; and if in time this market should fail, a little work would enable them to transport everything they produced to the river, where it could be shipped to Sacramento, and thence to the coast.

Those whose duty it had been to ascertain regarding the title to the land in the locality under consideration reported it free from taint of any kind. In point of fact the claim of the Parsons family upon which they settled in the foothills above Sacramento City was never disputed.

A motion that they locate upon the lands described was put to a vote and carried unanimously, and preparations for the journey at once began.

The team which had brought John Parsons' family across the plains was again hitched to the canvas-covered wagon, their little store of goods was packed in train, including as much of the produce of the garden as could be added without overloading the team, leaving all, even Mrs. Parsons and the children, to walk, and thus they again took up their journey, a dozen families, all told.

Some in the little company were entirely without money. All, not excepting John Parsons, were nearly so. And Martha knew well that worse hardships than walking for a few days, or even weeks, in large parties, any surplus of the produce of the garden could be added without overloading the team, leaving all, even Mrs. Parsons and the children, to walk, and thus they again took up their journey, a dozen families, all told.

True, the men might go back to mining. There would be mines in the vicinity of the claims they expected to locate; but these men had lost all faith in their luck with the pick. They had worked at it, more or less, all of them, but none had ever "struck it rich." Besides, they were of that class of men who prefer steady gain, even if slow and small, to the excitement of speculation or searching with a pick and shovel for a fortune which may possibly come at any moment, but in all probability will never come at all.

Mining parties very much of the character of the gambler. It constantly holds out the promise of large gains—of a fortune to be secured in a day, in an hour, perhaps. The next deal, the next shovelful, the next blow with the pick, may disclose a pocket full of dollars; and so he works on for days and months and years with but one object, one thought—to find that one vein have decreed should be of more value than home, or friends, or honor; that one piece of sustaining life; that one life itself—may, more; that failing to procure this one thing, they shall be denied all others.

But these men were not speculators, nor gamblers by nature. They were men who loved the quiet of home and the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. Farmers and farmers' sons back in the States, a brief experience in mining had satisfied most, and all had tried it until they were satisfied. What they wanted

A RUSSIAN REVIEW.

How the Armies of the Czar Are Inspected by the Emperor.

We rode at least a mile and a half past the line of tents, and must have seen 50,000 men. The ground is pretty well covered, and altogether well suited for camp purposes. At the end we came upon the Guard regiments and the Preobrazhensky Regiment, with whom finished the inspection; and here were assembled all the bands and drums, to the number of 800, in one compact mass facing the Emperor's pavilion or tent, at the door of which she and her ladies alighted, and were joined by the Emperor and Grand Dukes. We all dismounted and came inside the square, of which the royalty and staff formed one side, the musicians the opposite side, the other two sides being composed of officers of the various corps who had hurried to the spot. In the center, on a mound, stood the conductor of the united bands of music, and near him one drummer-boy, or perhaps a lad of twenty. We (the foreign missions) stood in line, and the Emperor came down from the pavilion and spoke to each of the Generals. He was very gracious to me, and inquired about my service and the commands I had held. This over, he stood alone in the center, and a detachment of Sergeants in full marching order passed him one by one, each Sergeant giving the evening report of his picket and of the usual watch-setting. In a few minutes the Emperor, with his staff, for the moment the role of camp commandant. We (Generals only) were then taken up, one by one, to the Emperor, who talked to me about the Princesses of Wales, Dowry, Osborne, etc., and was altogether gracious and charming. Then tea was handed around, and the crowd of officers and of the troops generally kept closing round the square as the hour for "the retreat," or Zoria, drew nigh. Meanwhile the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an evening gun, three rockets shoot into the air, and the drums and bands roll out, with a solemnity and volume of sound not easily forgotten, the evening hymn, as the Emperor from the Emperor to the furthestmost spectator; and I should from my heart pity the man who, as the little lad's "Amen" went up in his solitary simplicity, and the Emperor, with his staff, on the horizon, and a storm seemed to threaten us, though the view down the slope and over the valley to Krasnoe, distant about a mile, was not rendered less beautiful by the combination of waning sunlight and the threatening clouds. Eight o'clock sounds; each field battery fires an